(e) whether it is a fact that necessary funds for improvement in the said sector will be less than the amount to be spent to set up the system for import of power from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The actual energy and peaking shortage in the country during the period April, 2006 to February, 2007 were 9.5% and 14.2% respectively.

(c) The power shortage can be reduced by strengthening of electricity transmission and distribution system, improvement in power generation, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, etc.

(d) Various measures needed in this regard are in progress.

(e) Generally yes, except in some specific cases where power is to be consumed in areas bordering the neighbouring countries from where the power is to be imported.

Setting up of power plants by BHEL

1436. SHRI KAMALAKHTAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL proposes to set up a 400 MW power plant on coal-to-gas conversion technology as eco-friendly and low carbon mission generation project in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a project is also proposed to be set up in the backward regions of the country, *i.e.* Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) at present have no plans to set

up a 400 MW power plants on coal to gas conversion technology. However, BHEL and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have plans to set up a 125 MW Integrated Gasification-based combined cycle (IGCC) plant which is based on coal to gas conversion technology for eco-friendly low emission power generation.

Power supply to Chhattisgarh

†1437. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reduced the power supply to Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, whether the State Government was consulted; and

(c) whether power supply will be restored, to earlier level soon/after reviewing the situation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) There has been no change in allocation of power to the State of Chhattisgarh from the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations of Western Region during the year 2006-07 (April, 2006 to February, 2007).

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the above.

Power situation in the country

1438. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power situation in the country is getting worse;

(b) if so, whether priority will be given for power generation in Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the target for Tenth Five Year Plan for power generation has been achieved, if so, details thereof, State-wise and category-wise as on date; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.